DE CURAÇAOSCHE COURANT.

Deel X. ZATURDAG den 26sten OCTOBER, 1822. N. 43.

Gedrukt en Zaturdag's morgens uitgegeven by WILLIAM LEE, *Drukker voor Zyne Majesteit den Koning der Nederlanden.*

Curaçao den 22sten October 1822.

DOOR Zyne Excellentie den Schout by nacht, Gouverneur dezer Eilanden, van den Heer Intendent des eilands Puerto Rico op den 21sten dezer, met eene geleidende missive van den 20sten July dezes jaars, ontvangen zynde een decreet betreffende den handel op dat eiland, luidende als volgt:

Puerto Rico 19 *de Julio de* 1822

DESDE mi ingreso al egercicio de esta Intendencia, uno de los primeros objetos de mis meditaciones, ha sido el estado en que se encuentran las aduanas de esta provincia, ó por mejor decir los manantiales de que debe salir su riqueza pública, para alivio de los pueblos y para la felicidad general. He tomado ya de ellas los conocimientos precisos, y con harto dolor mio he visto que su organizacion y circunstancias están muy distantes de ser las suficientes para llegar al grado de produccion en que ya debian estar. He visto que las reglas por que se gobiernan se hallan muy lejos de dar el órden que necesitan y precaber los abusos que por desgracia se frecuentan. He visto que no existe una base fixa y segura para la exaccion de los derechos establecidos: que han corrido tantos años sin arancel de aforos; y que estos existen en la voluntad de los administradores, llegando el caso de darse en las Aduanas de lo interior á una pieza de cinta ancha de raso de seda el valor de real y medio; á una de saraza de viente y ocho yardas el de trece reales, y a otros articulos otros aforos aun mas escandalosos, sin poder ser reconvenidos y corregidos los aforadores por no habérseles dado el competente arancel. He visto en fin cuanto era necesario para tomar medidas activas en la reforma de una parte tan importante al Erario.

Pero esta reforma general no es la obra de un momento, ni debe ser hecha de aquel modo en que puedan tener parte la festinacion ò la ligereza. Debe construirse sobre fundamentos sólidos y estables, y sobre los cuales el edificio no tenga solo una hermosa perspectiva. Sin embargo, para cuando llegue este caso, deben estar tomadas aquellas disposiciones que versando sobre abusos que no dan espera por su transcendencia, serán parte de su organizacion.

En esta virtud, en cumplimiento de las òrdenes de S. M: deseando que se observe en cuanto lo permiten las circunstancias la mas justa reciprocidad, y habiendo tomado los informes convenientes principalmente del señor Administrador de la Aduana de esta capital, he decretado lo siguiente:

Artículo 1. Los capitanes ó sobrecargos de los buques estrangeros entregarán al acto de la visita que ha de pasarseles al momento que fondeen, un manifiesto de su carga firmado y jurado, y espresando en el por mayor los tercios, fardos, ò vultos de que se componga. Este manifiesto será certificado á la espalda, y rubricadas cada una de sus hojas por el empleado de hacienda gefe de la visita, á presencia del capitan ó sobrecargo del buque.

Art. 2. Si algun capitan, ó sobrecargo, entregase el manifiesto diminuto, ó falso ó repugnase hacerlo; desde luego y en el acto de la visita espresada, se le impondrá la multa de cien pesos, sin perjuicio de lo demas á que por las circunstancias del caso haya lugar.

Art. 3. Dentro de las primeras veinte y cuatro horas à lo mas se presentará personalmente en la Aduana el capitan ò sobrecargo, con su consignatario, y entregará firmado ó el manifiesto circunstanciado è individual apreciado todo el cargamento, ó las facturas originales, ratificando el juramento de no conducir en el buque otras mercancìas ni efectos que los declarados, lo que certificará el intèrprete en el mismo manifiesto ó factura despues de su traduccion.

Art. 4. Por la falta de presentar el manifiesto con las circunstancias y en el tèrmino de las veinte y cuatro horas espresadas en el articulo anterior, y ractificando el juramento referido, se impondrá al capitan ó sobrecargo una multa de cien pesos; y si resultase diferencia entre uno y otro manifiesto que exeda del tres por ciento, el exeso será decomisado; pero si la diferencia no excediese del tres, se subsanará anotándose para el cobro de derechos.

Art. 5. Si el capitan no siendo, ó no teniendo sobrecargo no pudiere hacer el manifiesto individual por menor, el consignatario, ò los interesados, si los hubiese, tendrán esta obligacion, y presentarán las facturas originales dentro de las veinte y cuatro horas prevenidas en el art. 3. las cuales serán traducidas por el intèrprete de la hacienda pública detro de las cuarenta y ocho horas siguientes á su presentacion.

Art. 6. Nada podrá embarcarse ni desembarcarse de un buque, antes ó despues de presentado el manifiesto ó factura, sin el debido conocimiento de la Aduana. Si se intentare, ò si se hiciere, aunque sea de cosa de poca entidad, los efectos desembarcados ò intentado desembarcar, serán decomisados, con previa justificacion para lo segundo

Art. 7. Si se transbordasen en bahía gèneros efectos de un buque á otro sin el debido conocimiento y permiso de la Aduana aprendidos que sean, caerán con el bote ò lancha que haya servido para el transbordo en absoluta confiscacion.

Art. 8. Los efectos desembarcados fraudulentamente y aprendidos por el resguardo, ademas de su confiscacion, serán abaluados inmediatamente con arreglo al arancel de aforos, cuando estè comunicado, ò al precio corriente en la plaza por mayor, mientras no lo estè. Si su valor exediese de seiscientos pesos, y el buque de donde fueron desembarcados fuese en todo ò en parte de la probiedad del capitan ò del sobrecargo, sus enseres y todo lo perteneciente à èl caerán en la misma pena de confiscacion.

Art. 9. Las descargas de los buques serán hechas precisamente en las horas de oficina, como está espresamente mandado por S. M., y por el muelle y sitio que la Aduana señala á cada embarcacion.

Art. 10 Los gèneros ó efectos que deban ser reconocidos, pesados ó medidos, no podrán ser removidos de un paraje á otro sin conosimiento de la Aduana. La infraccion de estos dos artículos llevará consigo la pena de decomiso de lo que se hubiere desembarcado, ò removido

Art. 11. Siendo prohibida toda venta por menor de cualesquiera mercancias egecutada á bordo de los buques, las que sean aprendidas como tales serán decomisadas.

Art. 12. Si las mercancias y otros efectos manifestados como de tránsito y reesportacion se desembarcaren, ó se intentase introducir ilícitamente en el pais, serán aprendidos y decomisados en cualquiera parte en que se encuentren previa la justificacion indicada en el art. 6. En este caso, si los efectos aprendidos, valuados del modo que previene el art. 8 importasen 500 ps ò mas, y el buque de su procedencia fuese en el todo ò en parte de la propiedad del capitan ò del sobrecargo, á demas de la pena de su decomiso, se aplicará la de confiscacion del buque, de sus enseres, y de cuanto le pertenezca.

Art. 13. Los efectos y víveres de rancho, igualmente se manifestarán; y si en su cantidad apareciere un exceso considerable, con respecto al tiempo de navegacion y nùmero de consumidores legítimos, pagará el exceso los correspondientes derechos.

Art. 14. Los equipages de los pasageros estarán sujetos á la misma visita y exâmen, y si en ellos se descubriere un verdadero fraude, será él todo decomisado.

Art. 15. Se exceptuan de esta regla por espresa órden de S. M. de los pontificales los ilustrisimos y reverendísimos Sres. Arzobispos y reverendos Obispos.

Art. 16. Las cargas de frutos y otros efectos del pais en las expediciones de retorno, se haràn por ahora conforme á la práctica establecida. Las mieles, y cualquiera otro renglon no sugeto á peso serán indispensablemente medidas y reconocidas en el muelle atracando á èl las lanchas ò embarcaciones que las conduzcan. Sin estas formalidades no podrán embarcarse, y el que lo egecutare, ò intentase, perderá su valor incurriendo en decomiso, y previa la justificacion de lo segundo.

Art. 17. Los empleados en las Aduanas que no cumpliesen con su deber en la egecucion de este decreto, bien por omision, ò bien por malicia ó interés particular, serán irremisiblemente castigados, segun y con todo el rigor de las leyes.

Art. 18 Las reglas anteriores comenzarán á ser egecutadas para con los buques del comercio de San Tomas, Santa Cruz, y las islas immediatas, el 10 del proximo Agosto; para con los de Curazao, San Martin y San Bartolomé y las islas inmediates el 20 del mismo mes: para con los de la Martinica, la Granada, Guadalupe è islas immediates el 30 del propio mes; para con los de la Trinidad el 10 de Septiembre proximo: para con los de la Barbada y Jamaica el 20 del propio mes: para con los de los Estados Unidos el 20 de Octubre; y para con los de los puertos de Francia, ciudades Ansiaticas, Italia, Alemania, Inglaterra y Holanda en Europa el 20 de Enero de 1823.

Art. 19. Para la mayor publicidad de este decreto, y que nadie jamás alegue ignorancia, tradúzcase en los idiomas Francès è Ingles: imprímase en tres columnas con los tres idiomas: comuniquese á los Excmos. Sres. Gobernadores de las Antillas estrangeras, y a los cónsules de S. M. en los puertos de los Estados Unidos y de Inglaterra, Holanda, Francia, ciudades Ansiaticas, Alemania, Génova, Napoles, Venecia: transcribase á la Junta de Hacienda de esta provincia, á la superintendencia de la Habana, Sres. Ministros de la Hacienda pública de esta provincia, y à los Administradores de las Aduanas; figese en los lugares acostumbrados, y dese cuenta á S. M.

JOSE DOMINGO DIAZ.

Puerto Rico ce 19 *Juillet* 1822.

UN des premiers objets de mes observations, depuis mon entrée à l' exercice de mes fonctions comme Intendant general de cette Ile, à e è le triste etat dans le quel se trouvent ses adouanes, qui sont les veritables depôts d' où depend [illegible] la richesse publique, le soulag[illegible]s peuples, et le bonheur general. Aprè[illegible] les informations necessaires, j'[illegible] que leur organisation, et les c[illegible] sont très loin d' etre suffisantes pour arriver au degrè de production qu' elles devraient donner depuis long temps. J' ai vu que les regles par les quelles, elles se gouvernent, ne sanctionnent point l' ordre, de la maniere, qu' il faut pour arrèter les abus, qui malheureusement ne son que trop frequents. J' ai vu qu' il n' existe pas une base fixe, et sure pour lá perception des droits etablis. Que depuis le temps de leur creation, elles sont encore aujourdhui sans un tarif des prix des denrèes qui n' a existè que dans la volontè des Administrateurs. J' ai vu que dans les Adouanes on à donné á une piece de ruban large en satín la valeur d' un escalin et demi; á une piece d' indienne fine de vingt-huit aunes, celle de treize escalins; et á d' autres articles des evaluations encore plus scandaleuses, ne pouvant rien reprocher aux administrateurs, puisqu' il n' existait aucun reglament fixe J' ai vu, enfin, combien de mesures actives il faut prendre, pour obtenir une reforme radicale, dans la partie la plus interessante du tresor public.

Mais cette reforme generale n' est pas l' ouvrage d' un moment: elle doit etre le fruit de la prudence, et non celui de la lègèretè, et de la precipitation: elle doit etre etablie sur des fondements solides, et stables, sur les quels l' edifice ait quelque chosse de plus, qu' une belle perspective. Cependant; en attendant cet heureux moment, jedois prendre toutes les dispositions necessaires, pour contenir les abus, dont les effets pernicieux demandent un prompt remède, et quelles doivent fairè partie de l' organisation.

Desirant donc, d' aprés les ordres de S. M. qu' on observe la plus juste reciprocitè, tant que les circonstances le permettront; et ayant pris les informations convenientes, principalement de Mr. l' Administrateur de l' adouane de la capitale j' ai decreté ce qui suit.

Art. 1. Les capitaines, ou supre cargues des batiments etrangers, donneront á l' acte de la visite, qu' on leur passerà aussitòt aprés avoir mouillé un manifeste de leur cargaison signé, et jurè, dans le quel on constaterá en gros tous les ballets, coffres, ou paquets de marchandises, qui soyent á bord. Ce manifeste será certifiè au dos, et parophè dans chacune de ses feuilles, par l' employé des finances chef de la visite, en presence du capitaine, óu supre cargue du batiment.

Art. 2. Si quelque capitaine, où supre-cargue donnait son manifeste defectueux, ou falsifié; ou bien repugnait de le donner exact, on lui imposerà immediatement, dans l' acte de la visite une amende de cent gourdes, outre le reste, qui aurá lieu selon les circonstances.

Art. 3. Dans les premieres vingt quatre heures, le capitaine, ou le supre cargue se presentera personellement á l' adouane, accompagne de son consignataire, et donnerá le manifeste en detail, et circonstanciè de toute la cargaison, signè de sa main; on bien les factures originales, ratifiant le serment de ne pas conduire á son bord d' autres denrèes, ou marchandises, que celles, qui son declarées. L' interprete certifierà le tout dans le meme manifeste ou facture, aprés la traduction.

Art. 4. Si on ne presentait pas le manifeste en detail avec les circonstances, et dans les vingt quatre heures, ordonnèes dans l' article precedent ratifiant le serment, on imposerá au capitaine, ou au supre cargue une amende de cent gourdes: et si la diference entre le veritable, et le faux manifeste exedait la valeur de trois pour cent, l' excés será confisquè: mais si le

difference est moindre du trois pour cent, on reparera la faute, en mettant l' annotation pour la perception des droits.

Art. 5. Si le capitaine n' est pas supre-cargue; ou si n' ayant point de supre cargue, il ne peut faire le manifeste individuel en detail le consignataire, ou les interessès auront ce devoir á remplir: ils presenteront les factures originales dan le vingt-quatre heures ordonnèes dans l' art. 3 les quelles seront traduites par l' interprete des finances dans les quarante-huit heures, apres leur presentation.

Art. 6. Rien ne pourra etre emparqué, ni debarqué, avant, ni après la presentation du manifeste, ou des factures sans la connaissance de l' adouane: Si on tachait de lle faire; ou si on le faisait, les effets embarqués, ou debarquès, seront confisqués, fussent-ils de la moindre valeur; aprés la justification du fait.

Art. 7. Si on transbordait dans la baie des denrèes, ou des marchandises d' un batiment á un autre sans la connaissance, et la permision de l' adouane, elles seront confisquees aussitôt qu' arretees, ainsi que la chaloupe qui aurá servi á leur transbord.

Art. 8. Les effets debarquès frauduleusement et arretès par les employès, outre leur confiscation, seront estimèsd' aprés le tarif des prix establis quand il será communique: et en attendant, par les prix courants dans la place en gros. Si leur valeur excedait celle de six cents geurdes, et le batiment, d' ou ils seraient debarquès font en tout, ou en partie propriete du capitaine, ou du supre cargue, le batiment, et tous les effets, et denres á lui apartenants, seront egalement confisquées.

Art. 9. Les decharges des batiments se feront precisement aux heures dans les quelles les bureaux son ouverts, comme il est expressement ordonnè par S. M., et par le môle, et lieu que l' adouane dessignera.

Art. 10. Les marchandises, ou denrèes qui doivent etre reconnues, pesèes, ou mesurèes, ne pourront etre changèes d' un lieu á un autre, sans la connaissance de l' adouane. La contravention de ces deux articles porte avec soi la peine de confiscation de ce qui aurá eté debarquè, oú changè de lieu.

Art. 11. Toute vente de marchandises, ou denres en detail, faite à bord des batiments etant defendue, celles qui seront saisies, comme telles, seront confisquèes.

Art. 12. Si les marchandises; et autres effets manifestés comme de passage, et reexportation venaient á etre debarquès; et on tachait de les introduire frauduleusement dans le pays, ils seron saisis, et confisqués, lá ou on les trouvera, aprés la justification dite dans l' art. 6. Si les effets arretès, evaluès dans la forme prescrite dans l' art. 8. avaient la valeur de cinq cent gourdes, et au dessus, et que le batiment d' ou ils procedaient fut, en tout, ou en partie propriètà du capitaine, ou du supre cargue, les effets, le batiment, et toutes les denrèes à lui apartenantes, seront egalement confisquès.

Art. 13 On manifesterá aussi les effets, denrèes, et vivres de la nourriture ordinaire: et si on decouvrait un exces considerable dans la quantité, vu le temps de la navigation, et le nombre des personnes qui doivent les consommer, l' exces payerá les droits establis.

Art. 14. Les equipages des passagers seront assujetis à la meme visite, et examen; et si on venait á trouver une veritable fraude dans eux, le tout será confisquè.

Art. 15. Les habits Pontificaux de MM. les tres RR. Archeveques, et RR. Eveques sont exceptuès de cette regle, par ordre de S. M.

Art. 16. Les charges des fruits et d' autres effets du pays, dans les entreprises de retour, se feront selon l' usage etabli, jusqú á nouvel ordre. Les Miels, et tout autre article non assujetti á etre pesè, doivent etre mesures, et reconnus dans le môle, au quel on approchera les chaloupes, canots, ou queiq' autre batiment qui les conduisent: si on les embarquait sans ces formalitès, ou qu' on tachait de les embarquer, on perdrait leur valeur, tombant en la confiscation, aprés la justification, dans le second cas.

Art. 17. Les employes des Adouanes qui ne feraient pas leur devoir dans l' execution du present decret soit par omission, soit par malice, ou soit par leur interet particulier seront punis sans remission, avec toute la severité des lois.

Art. 18. Ce reglement commencerá á etre executè le 10 Aout de cette annee pour les batiments du commerce de St. Thomas, St. Croix, et les ilès inmediates: le 20 du meme mois, pour ceux de Caraçao, St. Martin, St. Barthelemy et les ilès immediates, le 30 pour ceux de la Martinique; la Grenade, la Guadaloupe, et les ilès immediates: le 10 Septembre pour ceux de la Trinitè: le 20 pour ceux de la Barbade, et de la Jamaique: le 20 Octobre pour ceux des Etats Unis: et le 20 Janvier 1823 pour ceux des ports de France, des Villesanseatiques de l' Italie, d' Allemagne d' Angleterre, et d' Hollande en Europe.

Art. 19. Le present decret porte ordonnance de le traduire dans les idiomes Français, et Anglais, pour la plus grande publicitè, et pour que personne ne puisse l' ignorèr: de l' imprimer en trois colonnes dans les trois idiomes, de le communiquer á LL. Exc. M. M. los Gouverneurs des Antilles etrangeres; á M. M. les consuls de S. M. dans les ports des Etats Unis, d' Angleterre, Hollande, France, Villesanseatiques, Allemagne, Genes, Naples, et Venise: de le transcrire á la jonte des finances de cette province; á la Super-Intendance de l' Havane; á MM. les ministres des finances de cette province; aux administrateurs des adouanes; de le fixèr dans les lieux publics de coutume; et d' en rendre compte á S. M.

JOSE DOMINGO DIAZ.

Porto Rico, 19th July, 1822.

SINCE entering upon the duties of this Intendency, one of the first objects of my consideration has been the state of the custom-houses of this province, or rather the sources from which the public wealth is to be derived for the relief of the people and the general felicity. I have already possessed myself of the necessary information as regards them, and with lively regret I have seen that their organization and circumstances are very far from being sufficient to make them yield what they should. I have seen that the rules by which they are governed are very distant from producing that order which is necessary to prevent those abuses which unfortunately so frequently occur. I have seen that there exists no fixed and sure base for the exaction of the established duties, nor has been made for so many years a proper regulation by tariff, and that this only exists in the pleasure of the collectors; it being a fact that in some of the custom-houses of the coast a piece of large satin ribbon has been valued at one and a half reals, and one of printed calico with 28 yards at 23 reals, and other articles at still lower rate; whilst the power is wanting to accuse and punish the appraisers not having a tariff to guide them by. Last I have seen enough to induce me to take active measures in the reform of a branch so important to the Exchequer.

But this reform is not the work of a moment, nor must it be operated with hurry or want of due consideration. Its foundation must be solid and lasting; otherwise it would have but a deceitful appearance. Nevertheless, it is expedient to take in the meantime all such measures concerning abuses of great and peremptory transcendency as may form hereafter part of this general organization.

To this effect therefore, in compliance with the orders of his Majesty, hoping, that, as far as circumstances will permit a just reciprocity, it may be observed, and having obtained the necessary information particularly from the collector of this capital I have decreed the following:—

Article 1st. The captains or supercargoes of foreign vessels will deliver at the visit which will be passed as soon as they anchor, a manifest of the cargo signed and sworn, therein expressing the packages of which it is composed. This manifest shall be certified on the back, and each of its leaves marked by the officer of the custom chief of the visit in the presence of the captain or supercargo.

Art. 2d. If any captain or supercargo shall deliver a short or false manifest, or refuse one altogether, he shall at once be fined one hundred dollars, incurring at the same time any other penalty which the circumstances may involve.

Art. 3d. Within the first 24 hours at farthest the captain, or supercargo shall with his consignee present himself personally in the custom house, and shall deliver a signed and detailed manifest with the valuation of the whole cargo, or the original invoices, confirming the oath of not having brought in the vessel other merchandise, or effects than those specified, which shall be certified by the interpreter in the manifest or invoices after its translation.

Art. 4th In default of presenting the manifest in the form required, and within the time expressed in the preceding article, and confirming the oath above referred to, the captain or supercargo shall incur a fine of one hundred dollars; and if a difference should result between the two manifests, the excess shall be confiscated if it exceeds 3 per cent; but if less it will be passed over, the duty being paid thereon.

Art. 5th If the captain by not being supercargo or not having one on board, cannot make out the detailed manifest, the consignee or those interested in the cargo; (should there be any) shall be obliged to do it; and they shall present the original invoices within the 24 hours prescribed by art 3. which shall be translated by the interpreter of the custom house within the next 48 hours after their presentation.

Art. 6th. Nothing can be put on board or landed from a vessel either before or after the presentation of the manifest or invoices without the proper cognizance of the custom house. If it should be attempted or effected whatever be its value, the effect landed or intended to be landed shall be confiscated; sufficient and legal proofs of the intention appearing.

Art. 7th. If merchandise or effects shall be carried in the port from one vessel to another, without the necessary knowledge and permission of the custom house, they shall be confiscated together with the boat used in their conveyance.

Art. 8th. Any effects fraudulently landed and seized by the custom house guards, besides their confiscation, shall be valued according to the tariff when established, or the prices current of the place until issued: if their value exceeds 600 dollars, and the vessel is wholly or in part the property of the captain or supercargo, its interest and all belonging to him shall incur the same penalty of confiscation.

Art. 9th. Vessels shall discharge only within custom house hours as is expressly ordered by his majesty; and at the wharf and place which the custom house shall point out to each vessel.

Art. 10th. Merchandise or effects which are to be examined weighed or measured, can not be removed from one place to another without the knowledge of the custom house. The infraction of these two articles will carry with it the penalty of confiscation of whatever has been landed or removed.

Art. 11th. Retail sales of all articles whatsoever being prohibited on board of vessels: those so sold shall be confiscated.

Art. 12th. If merchandise or other effects manifested for exportation be landed, or an attempt made to introduce them unlawfully into the country, they shall be seized, and confiscated wherever they be found, as provided, for by art. 6th. In this case, if the goods seized valued according to the manner prescribed by art. 8th exceeds 500 dollars or more, and the vessel by which they were brought be wholly or in part the property of the captain or supercargo, besides the penalty already incurred, the vessel shall be confiscated with its interest and whatever may belong to him.

Art. 13th. The ship's stores and provisions shall likewise be manifested, and if their quantity appear manifestly excessive, considering the time necessary for the voyage and the number of consumers, the surplus shall pay the corresponding duty.

Art. 14th. The effects of passengers shall be subject to the same visit and examination and if in them any fraud be discovered, they shall be confiscated.

Art. 15th. The pontifical robes of the most illustrious and right reverend Archbishops and Bishops are excepted from this rule by express order of his Majesty.

Art. 16th. Return Shipments of the produce of the country shall be made in conformity with the established practise. Molasses and any other article not weighed, shall be measured and recognised on the wharf, the boats bringing it, going there, for that purpose. Without this formality it can not be embarked, and those who do it, or attempt it shall lose in penalty, its value, sufficient and legal proofs of the intention appearing.

Art 17th. The officers of the custom house who do not comply with their duty in the execution of this decree either through negligence or interested views, shall be punished according to, and with all the rigor of the laws.

Art. 18th. The preceding rules will go into operation with respect to vessels of St. Thomas, St. Cruz and the immediate islands on 10th of August next, to those of Curaçao St. Martin, St. Bartholomew and the islands thereto immediate the 30th of the same month; those of Martinique, Granada, Guadaloupe and the neighbouring islands the 30th of the same month; those of Trinidad the 10th of September next, those of Barbadoes and Jamaica the 20th of the same month; those of United States the 20th of October; those of the ports of France; the Hanseatic towns, Italy, Germany, England, Holland, &c. the 20th January 1823.

Art. 19. For the better Knowledge of this decree, and that ignorance of it may not be pretended: it is ordered to be translated into French and English, and printed in three columns in the three languages, to be communicated to the most excellent Governors of the foreign Antiles, and to the Consuls of his Majesty in the ports of the United States, England, Holland. France, Hanseatic towns, Germany, Genoa, Naples, Venice; to the Junta de Hacienda of this province, to the Superintendency of Havanna, to the Ministers of the public treasury of this province, and to the Collectors of the custom houses, to be affixed in the accustomed places, and an account given of it to his Majesty.

JOSE DOMINGO DIAZ.

Heeft Zÿne Excellentie, ten gevolge van het verzoek van den gemelden Heer Intendent dat daaraan alle mogelÿke publiciteit zal worden gegeven, goedgevonden te gelasten dat het voorzeide decreet in de Curaçaosche Courant, tot informatie van wien het aangaat, zal worden geinsereerd.

Op last van Zÿne Excellentie den Schout bÿnacht Gouverneur voormeld,

W. PRINCE, Gouv. Sec.

CURACAO.

Vaartuigen in en uitgeklaard sedert onze laatste

INGEKLAARD—OCTOBER.

19	golet	Twee Vrienden, Thysen,	Aruba
21.	bark	Two Friends, Silvaster,	St. Thomas
	brik	Fame, Boss,	New York
	golet	La Fortona, Rignom,	dito
22.	——	Les Hermanas, Evertsz,	Aruba
	brik	Leander, *M'*Foy,	Providence
	——	Liberty, Titcomb,	New York
	golet	Merkuur, Turner,	*M*aracaybo
23.	bark	Anna Felix, Bartolotte,	St. Domingo
24.	golet	*M*aria, Antich,	Porto Rico
	——	Venice, Todd,	Spaansche kust
	——	Cleantis, Fournier,	*M*aracaybo

UITGEKLAARD—OCTOBER.

19.	brik	Henrietta, Akkerman,	New York
	bark	Carmen, Pasely,	St. Thomas
	golet	Cornelia, *M*öller,	*M*aracaybo
21.	——	Venus, Pietersz,	dito
	——	Anna, Catharina, Laroche,	Sp. kust
22.	——	Brunette, Diedenhoven,	dito
	——	Brutus, *M*artin,	*M*aracaybo
	bark	Hebe, Lena,	St. Thomas
	golet	Two Brothers, *M*arino,	Porto Rico
	bark	Globe, Cole,	Alexandria
	——	*M*orgenstar, Crane, jr	St. Domingo
	——	Anne, Barreaux,	Spaansche kust
	——	Atrevida, Guasp,	Puerto Cabello
	——	Liberaal, Puigs,	dito
	bark	Leonora, Damers,	Spaansche kust
24.	golet	Twee Vrienden, Thysen,	Aruba
	——	St. Antonio, Walter,	dito
	——	Las Hermanas, Evertsz,	dito
25.	——	Jacobs, Crane, jr.	Spaansche kust
	bark	Chance, Dewindt,	dito

Z. M 's brik de Zwaluwe, kapt. Bodel, vertrok verleden Dingsdag naar La Guayra.

Verleden Zondag kwam de Spaansche oorlogs brik de Herkules, kapt. Mendoza, in deze haven aan, en zeilde Woensdag weder naar Maracaybo.

Door de aankomst van vaartuigen gedurende deze week van Maracaybo, zyn alhier de Balletins van generaal Morales van No. 1 tot 6 ontvangen geworden, welke een berigt geven van zyne verrigtingen van den tyd zyner aanstelling tot het kapitein generaalschap van Venezuela, tot het in bezit nemen van Maracaybo en het kasteel van San Carlos in de Bar. Wy hebben reeds de meeste verhalen van deze gebeurtenissen, en wy bevinden, dat de officieele berigten der Columbianen der neming van Maracaybo, welke op den 12den dezer uitgegeven zyn, na genoeg door de Spaansche Bulletins bevestigd worden. Deze dokumenten zyn zoo lang van inhoud, dat het ons de mogelykheid benemen, om in dit nommer de vertaling daarvan te geven, byzonderlyk aangezien, het onze wensch is om dezelven aan onze lezers in eens voortestellen, ten dien einde zyn wy verpligt om de uitgeving derzelve tot onze volgende uittestellen.

In het gevegt van Salina Rica, welke schynt het laatste te zyn geweest, nam generaal Morales ingevolge de 5de Balletin, 653 gevangenen, daar onder begrepen 13 officieren, als mede 762 geweren, 17 trommels, 9 waldhoorns, een aantal dragten krygsbehoeftens en levensmiddelen, en 43 paarden. Het verlies van den vyand in gesneuvelden en gekwesten was groot, de laatste voerde men in het hospitaal, alwaar men hen dien bystand zal verlenen, welke de menschheid vordert. Het verlies der overwinnaars beliep op 17 gesneuvelden en 58 gekwesten, waar onder 9 officieren.

Een boatje kwam gisteren van Puerto Cabello alhier aan, en bragt tydingen dat kol. Calzada op den 22sten dezer met vyf vaartuigen, aan boord hebbende 150 mannen en 30 officieren, als mede eene groote som gelds en hoeveelheid levensmiddelen aldaar aangekomen is.

Gisteren kwam alhier een vaartuig van Coro met verscheidene vlugtelingen aan. Men verhaalde dat die plaats zich in eenen staat van hoofdelooze regering bevind. Men berigtte tevens dat Paez te Altagracia aangekomen is.

Wy hebben Londensche Kouranten over St. Thomas ontvangen tot den 24sten Augustus.

De koning van Engeland, ging den 10den Augustus namiddag om half vier uren van Greenwich Hospitaal aan boord van het jagt de Roya George, tot zyne reis naar Schotland scheeps. Op den 14den des namiddags kwam het jagt in Leith Roads ten anker, onder het gebulder der kanonnen van de schepen, van de batteryen en hoogtens rond om de stad, en onder de toejuiching van duizende toezieners, die tot vermaak in vaartuigen van verscheidene zoorten gescheept waren. Zyne majesteit ging echter eerst tot den volgenden dag aan wal, door het ongunstige weder, alhoewel alle toebereidselen gemaakt waren. De plegtigheden der ontscheping hadden plaats op den 15den. Er waren twee praal bogen opgerigt, en toen Z. M. aan de wal stapte, werd hy ontvangen met toejuiching van geestdrift van duizenden, die verlangende waren op eenen opslag van het oog van hem, ten einde hem de getrouwheid en verknochtheid aan zyn persoon verschuldigd, te betoonen. Eene groote optogt werd bewerkstelligd, die naar de stad Edinburg optrok, en van daar naar het paleis van Holy Rood House.— Men veronderstelde dat Z M. Schotland op den 21sten Augustus tot zyne terug reis naar Londen zoude verlaten.

De marquis van Londonderry (lord Castlereagh) eerste minister van England, heeft des morgens van den 12den Augustus een einde aan zyn leven gemaakt, door, met een pennemes eene slagader in zynen nek te openen. De marquis was eenige dagen voor zynen dood in eene ylhoofdigheid, maar des morgens waarop hy deze verschrikkelyke daad verrigtte, was hy geheel krankzinnig. De wond die hy zich toebragtte, was zoodanig dat het leven byna oogenblikkelyk daardoor eindigde, en niet minder dan twee pinten bloeds stroomde in eene minuut uit dezelve.

Het volgende is het oordeel van de jury geveld op het onderzoek van de coroners op het ligchaam van zyne lordschap :—

" Dat op Maandag den 12den Augustus, en eenige dagen vooraf, de Hoog Edele Robert, Marquis van Londonderry, leed en kwynde onder eene zware ontsteltenis, en ingevolge daarvan hy ylhoofdig en krankzinnig werd : en terwyl in dezen staat hy zich met een mes van yzer en staal, aan de linker zyde van zynen nek, en in de slagader, eene wond van eenen duim lang, en eenen halven duim diep toebragt, waaraan hy dadelyk stierf ; en dat niemand dan hy alleen schuld aan zynen dood had."

Kort voor deze schrikkelyke gebeurtenis zeide de overledene tot zynen vertrouwdes knecht, " het zeker was dat men op zyn leven gemunt had, en dat hy van moordenaars omringd was."

Een officieel berigt van den slag van Tchesme, is door de Griekschе admiraliteit van Hydra en Ypsara bekend gemaakt, gedagteekend den 5den July, waarin gezegd wordt dat het bloed bad hetwelk door de Grieksche vloot is aangerigt, vry grooter is dan het in het begin is opgegeven. In byvoeging van het in de lucht gesprongene Turksche admiraal schip, werden er drie linie schepen verbrand en gezonken.— Zeven fregatten werden op strand gedreven, en het grootste gedeelde hunner manschappen, kwam door het vuur of door water om het leven. Na het gevegt voelden de Grieken zich sterk genoeg om een gedeelte hunner vloot naar Candia af te zenden, in welke onderneming gezegt wordt, dat zy volmaakt geslaagd zyn.

Uittreksel van eenen brief, gedagteekend Maracaybo den 17den October 1822.

" Onder de vaartuigen door generaal Morales te Maracaybo genomen, waren er vyf Nederlandsche schoeners, waarvan drie opgegeven zyn ; de andere twee die door den kapitein en het scheepsvolk verlaten waren, zyn verbeurd verklaard geworden.

" Met de edelmoedigheid waarmede generaal Morales de drie Nederlandsche schoeners behandeld had, kan ik niet langer aarzelen om te zeggen, dat waren de andere twee niet verlaten geweest, dezelven tevens zouden afgegeven zyn geworden ; maar aan boord niemand gevonden zynde, werden zy beschouwd als eigendommen van den vyand. Derzelver schippers en scheepsvolk zyn de Columbianen in hunnen terugtogt gevolgd."

His Majesty's brig Swallow, capt. Bodel, sailed on Tuesday for La Guayra.

On Sunday the Spanish brig of war Hercules, capt. Mendoza, arrived in this port, and sailed again on Wednesday, for Maracaybo.

By the arrivals during the week from Maracaybo, the bulletins of gen. Morales, from No. 1 to 6 have been received here, giving an account of his operations, from the period of his appointment to the capatingeneralship of Venezuela, to the occupation of Maracaybo and the castle of San Carlos. We have already taken notice of most of these occurrences. On perusal of the bulletins we find that the Columbian official accounts of the taking of Maracaybo, which we published on the 12th inst. are pretty fully corroborated by them. These documents are so very lengthy as to preclude the possibility of our giving translations from them in this number, particularly as it is our wish to present them to our Readers at one view ; we are, therefore, obliged to postpone their insertion till our next

At the action of Salina Rica, which appears to be the last that was fought, general Morales, according to the 5th bulletin, took 653 prisoners, including 13 officers, 762 stand of arms, 17 drums, 9 bugles, a great many loads of ammunition and provisions, and 43 horses. The number of killed and wounded was also considerable. The loss on the part of the victors was 17 killed and 58 wounded, among whom were 6 officers.

A launch came in yesterday from Puerto Cabello, and brings accounts of the arrival there of colonel Calzada on the 22d inst. with five vessels, having on board 150 men and 30 officers, and also a considerable sum in money and a quantity of provisions.

Yesterday a vessel arrived from Coro, with several emigrants. The place is stated to be in a state of anarchy. It is also said that Paez had arrived at Altagracia.

London papers have been received via St. Thomas to the 24th of August.

The king of England embarked from Greenwich Hospital on board his yacht, the Royal George, on the 10th of August, at half past three in the afternoon on his voyage to Scotland, On the 14th, in the afternoon the yacht came to anchor in Leith Roads, amid the thundring of cannon from the shipping and from the batteries and heights around the city, and the cheers of thousands of spectators, who embarked in pleasure vessels of every description.— His majesty, however, did not land till the following day, in consequence of the unfavorable state of the weather, although, every preparation was made. The ceremony of debarkation took place at Leith on the 15th. There were two triumphal arches erected, and on His Majesty's stepping ashore he was received with the enthusiastic cheers of countless thousands, eager to catch a glimpse of him, and to testify their loyalty and attachment to his person. A grand procession was formed, which moved on to the city of Edinburgh, and from thence to the palace of Holy Rood House. It was supposed that his majesty would leave Scotland on his return to London about the 21st of August.

The marquis of Londonderry (lord Castlereagh) prime minister of England, put a period to his existance on the morning of the 12th of August, by opening an artery in his neck with a pen knife. The marquis had been in a state of mental delusion for some days previous to his death, but on the morning he committed the horrid deed, he had become completely insane. The wound he inflicted was of such a nature, that life was almost instantly extinguished ; not less than two quarts of blood flowed from it in a minute.

The following is the verdict of the Jury at the coroner's inquest held on the body of his lordship :—

" That on Monday, August 12, and for some time previously, the Most Noble Robert, Marquis of Londonderry, under a grievous disorder did labor and languish, and became in consequence delirious and of insane mind : and that whilst in that state, with a knife of iron and steal, he did inflict on himself on the left side of his neck, and of the carotid artery, a wound of one inch in length, and half an inch in depth, of which he instantly died ; and that no other person except himself was the cause of his death."

The deceased, shortly before the awful event, told his confidential valet that " he was sure there was a design on his life ; he knew that he was beset by assassins."

Extract of a letter dated Maracaybo, Oct. 17.

" The castle of San Carlos capitulated to gen. Morales on or about the 11th Sept. on condition of the general paying to its commander the sum of four thousand dollars, and permitting him to depart, with the garrison of the castle, in the ship Columbia, for La Guayra.

" On the 21st Sept. Morales arrived with his fleet off Gibraltar. Clemente was then there, but on the approach of a flag of truce, sent by Morales to demand the surrender of the place, he immediately departed, taking with him the whole of his force, amounting to about 500 men, leaving major Haskinson, with 12 men to deliver up the place. The major on the flag of truce reaching the shore, told the Spanish officer who accompanied it, that he might take possession as soon as he pleased, and mounting his horse called out to the captains of the merchant vessels to make the best capitulation they could with the enemy, and then galloped off.

" After taking possession of Gibraltar, Morales boarded every vessel in person, and ordered them for Maracaybo. Among them were five Dutch schooners, three of which have been given up, the other two having been abandoned by their commanders and crews have been condemned. The English brig *Harmony*, of Harrington, capt. Braithwaite, is expected to be released, as the general had promised to do so.— The American brig Jubilee, of Saco, is expected to be given up also. The remaining vessels, one the Swallow, under Danish colours, and the others under the Columbian flag, are all condemned, having been found totally abandoned by their commanders and crews.

" From the liberality with which gen. Morales has acted towards the three Dutch vessels, *I* can have no hesitation in saying, that had the other two not been abandoned, they would have also been given up ; but having been found without any person on board, they were considered as enemy's property, their commanders and crews having followed the retreat of the Columbians.

" Com. Joseph King, of the Columbian service, was killed at St Pedro by a party of Indians, who on hearing that Morales had taken Maracaybo, declared themselves in his favor.

" Mr. W. J. Orford, supercargo of the British brig Harmony, died at Maracaybo, Sept. 30."

Lyst der Brieven welke ter Gouvernements Secretarie zyn berustende.

J J Gaatman	Juanita Entorne
Lucas Kampo	J Henriques
Rosa de Jonge	Florina Henriques
Alexander Duncan	Dew. Car Sterlingh
Augustien Camalo	Craisons & Jelting
Branpus *M*oron	H J Bulte, wed J N Kock.
Jose Alvares	Mariantie Sterman
Thomas Knight	G L Lindersay
E v A de Jh. Jesurun	Juan Garbiras
M Janboos	Andrea van der *M*uller
Jaime Camprube	Dew. Derk *M*alder
J Fran. Rebodo	H Allegre
J W A Lorenzen	W *M*c. Wheeler
Jose Velosques	G *M* Ellis
Guadalupe Oliva	*M* Hellenues
Bernardo Texxon	Gracia *M* de Antonio
J Henry Jutting	Secilia de Sola
Wm. Fry	Catalina Daniel
Juana Catalina	Daniel Francis
Thomas Welson	Den Neth Ellis
Johanna Hansz	Fernando Coeir
Besinto Delsirbe Guan	*M*anuel de Urvina
Peter J *M*eruaille	Jacob Muller
M P *M*anrique	Secila Sola
J *M* Vruboru y Abarola	Anna Feliepe
Jose Vicente Leon	*M* C van Starckenborgh
J *M* Camacho	

☞ Het gewigt van het Brood, blyft als in de verledene Week.

LONDON, August 6.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

His majesty this day proceeded in person to prorogue parliament. The interior of the House of Lords presented a brilliant display of ladies of the first rank and distinction. The foreign ambassadors, with their suites, gave additional splendour to the scene. The peers, as usual, wore their robes of state.

At twenty minutes before two his majesty quitted Carlton House with the customary state, and on entering Pall-Mall, was greeted with the loudest acclamations, in which all ranks seemed alike enthusiastically to join. The same demonstrations of loyalty and affection were manifested throughout his majesty's progress, and evidently afforded him the highest gratification. He repeatedly bowed and smiled to the populace, and appeared to be in excellent health and spirits. His majesty's arrival at the House of Peers was announced by a royal salute. Having come down in his robes, the customary ceremony of robing became unnecessary, and his majesty immediately proceeded to the House. On taking his seat upon the throne, the Commons were forthwith summoned to the Bar, and on their arrival his majesty delivered the following speech in a clear and audible voice:—

" *My Lords and Gentlemen,*

" I cannot release you from your attendance in parliament, without assuring you how sensible I am of the attention you have paid to the many important objects which have been brought before you in the course of this long and laborious session.

" I continue to receive from foreing powers the strongest assurances of their friendly disposition towards this country; and I have the satisfaction of believing, that the differences which had unfortunately arisen between the court of St. Petersbergh and the Ottoman Porte, are in such a train of adjustment as to afford a fair prospect that the peace of Europe will not be disturbed.

" *Gentlemen of the House of Commons,*

" I thank you for the supplies which you have granted me for the service of the present year, and for the wisdom you have manifested in availing yourselves of the first opportunity to reduce the interest of a part of the national debt, without the least infringement of parliamentary faith.

" It is most gratifying to me that you should have been enabled, in consequence of this, and other measures, to relieve my people from some of their burdens.

" *My Lords and Gentlemen,*

" The distress which has for some months past pervaded a considerable portion of Ireland, arrising principally from the failure of that crop, on which a great body of the population depend for their subsistence, has deeply affected me.

" The measures which you have adopted for the relief of the sufferers, meet with my warmest approbation, and seconded as they have been by the spontaneous and generous efforts of my people, they have most materially contributed to alleviate the pressure of this severe calamity.

" I have the satisfaction of knowing that these exertions have been justly appreciated in Ireland, and I entertain a sincere belief, that the benevolence and sympathy so conspicuously manifested upon the present occasion, will essentially promote the object, which I have ever had at heart, that of cementing the connection between every part of the empire, and of uniting in brotherly love and affection all classes and descriptions of my subjects."

Accounts from Vienna of the 18th ult. confirm the intelligence already received of the destruction of the Turkish fleet, and the death of captain Pacha. They add the following details:

" The chiefs of the Greek navy held council at Ipsara, and decided on a plan which was afterwards adopted. They called upon all those who were willing to devote their lives for the public good; more than 200 immediately presented themselves, and swore on the cross to execute the preconcerted enterprise, or to die gloriously. Out of these, 48 were chosen by casting lots, and received the benediction of their priests before engaging in their magnanimous design. All arrangements having been made, on the first day of the festival of Bairam, a Greek frigate and five vessels appeared under a foreign flag, before the Turkish line, as though to take a part in the rejoicings. The 200 heroes, who passed for Englishmen and Frenchmen, were well received by the enemy, who allowed them to enter the port of Tschesme, in order to anchor in the centre of the Turkish fleet. But scarcely had they reached that position when they carried their plan into effect. In a short time five ships of the line were on fire. The admiral's ship ran out of the harbor all in a blaze, in the hope of escaping total destruction, and run aground on their neigbouring coast of Scio, where the captain Pacha was landed expiring. After this signal success, these 200 self devoted patriots retired, without having experienced any loss." The enterprize appears to have been conceived and executed in a spirit of self devotion worthy of the best times of ancient Greece.

Odessa, July 17.—At length we have received news from Constantinople of the 11th of July. The catastrophe of the Turkish fleet has been severely felt in that capital like an electric shock. It reached even the Sultan himself, and the Divan; and lord Strangford, who declared some time ago that he did not dare to propose to the Porte to send a commissioner to meet M. de Tatitscheff, has profited by the terror of the moment to obtain concessions. If there was ever a favourable time of forcing the Porte to give up some of its pretensions, the present is the time, and we hope by the volour of the Greeks to obtain the result we desire.

This time the misfortune is too great to be concealed. According to the report of the Turks themselves, their fleet consisted of 55 sail before the disaster at Scio, and after it had been joined by the expedition which left Constantinople on the 4th June. On the 7th of July there were only 25 vessels, consequently 20 were missing. It may be hoped that the terror which has seized the Turks will continue, and Greece will be rescued.

Trieste, July 26.—Letters from Smyrna of the 6th July, inform us, that the inhabitants of the villages near Mastic, in the island of Scio, have met with a terrible fate. The Turks overran the villages, and drowned, burnt, or led into slavery, nearly 30,000 people, men, women and children. On July 5th, the Asiatics conducted 780 young women, between the ages of 13 and 17, to Tchesme, and after having tied them to a string, led them to the market at Smyrna, or into the interior of Asia. An eyewitness asserts, that these young women were the ornaments of the island, and that many of them died on the road from want and vexation. Some children of 7 years old were also saved in order to be sold. Reports are again circulated of negociations between the Pacha of Egypt and the leading men among the Greeks at Hydra and Spezzia. The news, however wants confirmation.

The Greeks have captured Napoli di Romani, one of the strongest fortresses in the Morea, in which 225 pieces of cannon and a quantity of arms have been found. Ceros and Moden, both important places, are about capitulating.

AMERICAN PAPERS.

MEXICO.

New York, Sept. 6.—Intelligence has been received of the coronation of Iturbide and his wife, as emperor and empress of Mexico. He ordered every solemnity and pageant custom ary on such occasions to be enforced; he has already commissioned *seventeen chaplins* for his household, besides a confessor for each of his family, and eight additional preachers. The emperor has established a new order of nobility, called the order of Guadaloupe; has had coins struck with his image, together with the insignias of liberty. How long these things may last, depends upon the Mexicans themselves; if they are not qualified for a free government, this pomp and pageantry may be well; but the people of this country cannot behold with indifference an emperor on the borders of their republic. If monarchy is to be perpetuated in South America, it is our interest that the imbecile Spanish monarchy should still exist.

PORT-AU-PRINCE.

Aug 22.—Our prospect for a good crop of coffee has, at no time, been more flattering than the present; and should we have no hurricane to destroy it, as the funds in the hands of Europeans are very limited, and they cannot speculate, we may look for a great reduction in prices the ensuing season.

HAVANA.

Aug. 14.—Our accounts from Spain say that the Spanish frigate Constitution is coming out, to bring commissioners for this and for Mexico, to fix upon a commercial treaty.

The last accounts from Vera Cruz are more favorable to the reign of Iturbide; it is said he will now admit the export of specie; all is however, uncertain and undefined in that quarter.

Aug. 20.—There were last evening, off the Moro, 12 sail of British merchantmen from Jamaica, bound home. I presume they wait to go under the protection of the frigate Iphigenia, which is still in port. Two vessels belonging to the fleet were captured on their passage from Jamaica, and the Tyne sloop of war left this three nights ago to search for them.

From Carthagena.—The schooner William Bayard, arrived last evening in 21 days passage. Capt. Peter Anner, late master, having died, intestate, the vessel was seized by the authorities under an old law that the property of a foreigner dying thus, shall escheat to the government. At the time of her seizure both officers and several of the crew were sick, and Mr. Robinson was absent. Fortunately the U. S. schooner Porpoise, lieut. Ramage, arrived at that juncture, bringing Mr. R. passenger from St. Marthe, who immediately investigated and laid the affair before capt. Ramage, who demanded her restoration, but finding the intendent extremely relucatnt to comply with his demands, he took charge of the schooner declaring her under the protection of the United States. After some alteration, and the determination of capt. R. to bring the vessel to sea unless prevented by force, the schooner was restored, lieut. Curtis put on board, and came out of port on the 13th of August, in company with the Porpoise.

SPAIN.

When the Mexicans shall learn that the late attempt to destroy the constitution of Spain has entirely failed, and that the insurgents have been put down, what will they do with their new fangled emperor? It cannot be, under the existing state of things, that this usurper will maintain his ill-gotten power. There is republican virtue enough among the Mexicans to shake his throne to the centre.

It is reported that the prince regent of Portugal has proclaimed himself emperor of Brazil.

BRAZILS.

The dignity and power of Regent of this vast empire, that the king my august father had granted to me, having been confirmed to me by the unanimous consent and spontaneous will of the people of Brazil, a dignity, of which the Cortes of Lisbon, without any of the deputies of Brazil being heard, have dared to deprive me, as is notorious; and I having, moreover, accepted the title and duties of perpetual defender of this kingdom, that the same people have so generously and loyally conferred upon me; in obedience, therefore, to my sacred duties, and in gratitude for so much love and fidelity, which call upon me to take all the measures indispensable to the salvation of this greatest part of the Portuguese monarchy that has been confided to me, and whose rights I have sworn to preserve uninjured by any attack; and inasmuch as the Cortes of Lisbon continue in the same erroneous and evidently unjust system of recolonizing Brazil, even by force of arms; notwithstanding she has already proclaimed her political independence, and has gone so far as that there is already convened, by my royal decree of the third of June last past, a general constituent, and legislative assembly, at the request of all the chambers, thus proceeding with a formality that did not take place in Portugal, where the convening of the congress was originally only an act of secret and factious clubs; and I also considering his majesty the king Don John the sixth, of whose name and authority the Cortes endeavour to avail themselves, for their own sinister purposes, as a prisoner in that kingdom, without any will of his own, and without that liberty of action, that is given to the executive power in constitutional monarchies: I command, having first heard my council of state, all the provincial juntas of government, generals, military commandants, and all the constituted authorities, to whom the execution of this decree may appertain, as follows:

I. That all and whatever troops, that shall be sent from Portugal or elsewhere to Brazil, without my previous consent, upon whatever pretext, be reputed enemies; together with all the crews and marines belonging to the vessels, in which they may be transported or from which they may endeavour to land; but without interruption to the commercial and friendly relations between both kingdoms, for the preservation of the political union that I greatly desire to maintain.

II. That if they shall arrive peaceably, they shall immediately return, remaining on board and without communication until they shall be furnished with the provisions and supplies necessary for their voyage back.

III. That in case the said troops shall not choose to obey these orders, and shall dare land, they be driven back, by force of arms, by all the military forces of the first and second line, and if necessary by the people en masse, putting in execution, if it shall be requisite, all possible means to burn the vessels, and to sink the boats in which the troops may attempt to land.

IV. That if notwithstanding all these efforts it shall happen, that the troops get possession of any port, or part of the coast of Brazil, all the inhabitants retire towards the centre, carrying into the woods and mountains, all the provisions and cattle, that could be useful to them; and the troops of the country shall carry on against them a cruel war of posts and guerrillas, (carefully avoiding general actions,) until it be freed from the enemy.

V. That it be the duty of all the competent military and civil authorities, to forty all the ports of Brazil, at which such disembarkations can be made, under the most strict and severe responsibility.

VI. That if in any of the provinces of Brazil, it shall happen that there are not the munitions and stores necessary for these fortifications, the same authorities above mentioned shall immediately represent to this court what are necessary, that they may be furnished from hence; or give immediate information to the nearest province, which shall be obliged to give them all the assistance necessary for the proper discharge of such important duties. The civil and military authorities, to whom appertains the execution of this my royal decree, are to fulfil and cause it to be fulfilled, with all due zeal, energy and promptitude, under the responsibility of being guilty of high treason, if they shall fail so to do. Palace of Rio de Janeiro, the first of August, one thousand eight hundred and twenty two.

By his royal highness the prince regent.

Luis Pereira da Nobrega de Sousa Coutinho.